

18th August 1925]

A.—Members of union boards are appointed by presidents of taluk boards. A list^a of members of the Ambur union board is laid on the table for information.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ With reference to the main question, may I know whether the Government will not interfere in the matter whenever the presidents of local boards misuse their powers and act contrary to the spirit of law whenever they make nominations? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The Government expect the public to draw the attention of the Government to such cases.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know whether the Government are aware that the nomination of one Duraiswami to the Union Board of Ambur was strongly objected to by the members of the depressed classes in Ambur on the ground that he would not serve well and that he was only a servant of the Ambur Union Board President? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I am afraid I have to say that the Government have no information on the subject.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ Will they be pleased to call for the information? ”

The composition of the Nilgiris District Board.

* 42 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of members of the Nilgiris District Board, how many of them are elected and how many nominated ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large percentage of the elected seats goes to the European planters and what is that percentage and what is the number of their voters ;

(c) whether there are several Indian planters in the Nilgiris and if so, their number ; whether they possess the right of electing any representatives to the district board ;

(d) the number of members to be elected by the general public and the number of voters in this case ; and

(e) whether the Government have received any mahazars to throw open more seats for election by general public and whether the Government have any intention of doing so ?

A.—(a), (b) & (d) The hon. Member is referred to the Annual Civil List for 1925. The strength of the Nilgiris District Board is 24. Six seats are filled up by Government and eighteen by election. Nine of the elective seats are filled by the Planters Associations and the remaining nine by the tax-payers and inhabitants of the district in general. The Government have no information in regard to the number of voters.

(c) The Government have no information.

(e) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know the reason why 50 per cent of the elective seats are filled by the planters and the other 50 per cent by the rest of the public? ”

[18th August 1925]

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“Because planters form an important community in the district.”

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Will the Government be pleased to get the number of voters under (b) and (d) ?”

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“The answer to (c) is—The Government have no information. The planters have a very small number of votes compared to the rest of the public. Will they be pleased to consider the matter ?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“Yes, Sir, the request will be considered.”

Medical.

Improvement of medical school libraries.

* 43 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any amount has been earmarked for the improvement of medical school libraries in the current year ;

(b) if so, how much ; and

(c) how much was asked by the institutions and how much was recommended by the Advisory Committee ?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The amounts asked for by the Superintendents of the various Medical Schools are as below

	£	RS.
Rayapuram	260	...
Tanjore	...	560
Madura	...	4,100
Vizagapatam	215	...
Calicut (now moved to Coimbatore).	...	1,500

The amount recommended by the Medical Library Standing Committee was £150 for each Medical School.

Revision of college fees of certain medical students.

* 44 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the question of revising the college fees of medical students who failed before 1925, either wholly or in part, has been reconsidered and if so, with what result ?

A.—A copy of G.O. No. 894, P.H., dated 28th April 1925, is placed on the Council table.^a

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Appointment of Commissioners to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 45 Q.—RAO SAHIB U. RAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the respective qualifications and credentials of the Commissioners who have recently been appointed to administer the Hindu Religious Endowments Act and their salaries ;

^a Printed as Appendix II on page 107 infra.